

the CARRIER



ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

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and George Jones, KI6YK

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PACIFICON '92 PLANS ARE LOOKING GOOD!

PACIFICON '92 is shaping up to be one of the better Amateur Radio shows in northern California in the last decade.

The event, sponsored by MDARC is the Pacific Division Convention of the American Radio Relay League. It is being held at the Hilton Hotel in Concord CA the weekend of October 16-18. Admission will be will \$5 at the door, but pre-show tickets are being sold for \$3 (the admission ticket is for all three days, and the admission ticket also represents a chance on a new ICOM rig).

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The theme of PACIFICON '92 is "Emergency Preparedness." It recalls the third anniversary of the Loma Prieta Earthquake and the first anniversary of the Oakland Hills Firestorm. "Opening the three day event will be a community seminar on Emergency Preparedness and planning co-sponsored by the Contra Costa County Office of Emergency that the Friday evening session will set the tone for the rest of the event.

On Friday night the community will have an opportunity to operators, as well as County representatives who will be there with much of the equipment available for use in an It ought to be quite a show."

Saturday and Sunday events will feature technical sessions on three tracks. The parallel sessions include one on Disaster Communications, one designed for new Amateur Radio operators and one general track to address a number of subjects of interest.

GORDON WEST TO TALK

Gordon West, WB6NOA, who is probably responsible for more people joining the ranks of Amateur Radio than any other single person, will be the keynote speaker at the traditional Saturday evening banquet. West is also scheduled to be a presenter at two of the technical sessions.

"We are delighted that Gordon accepted our invitation to be the guest speaker at the banquet," Tormey said. He suggested that reservations for the banquet should be made early. "The banquet is always a sellout," according to Tormey, "but with West as the speaker we expect the sellout early."

See Pacificon Page 2

Pacificon ContinuedLOTS OF EVENTS

PACIFICON '92 will also be the scene of a number of unique events that will be fun to watch and to participate in.

"For instance, there will be a Foot'n Fanny contest for those who think they are good CW operators. The rules for the contest are in a state of continual flux and may not be finalized until after the contest is over," said Richard Shappee, WA5HQJ, who will oversee contestants and the contest. "I'm sure it will make a lot of folks happy, and it is sure to make some sore," Shappee said.

Volunteer Examiners from the ARRL's Solano VE Team will be on hand on both Saturday and Sunday to conduct examinations for all class of Amateur Radio Service license. The cost of the examinations is \$5.40 each.

A satellite television conference will be held with Amateur Radio Operators in Hawaii, said Keith Lattin, N6PME, who is coordinating the television aspects of the conference. Lattin noted that all technical sessions will be videotaped by experts who are members of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club's ATV group.

"The sessions will be transmitted over the Hilton internal television network, and most sessions can be viewed from individual rooms," Lattin said. Coordinating the Hawaiian end of the teleconference will be Mike Scott, N6GOZ, an MDARC member and ATV'er who resides in Hawaii.

YOUTH FORUM SET

With the average age of hams falling like a lead weight, PACIFICON '92 will be "the place" for young hams to be the weekend of October 16-18.

A Youth Forum just for young hams will take place on Saturday, October 17, with Rosalie White, ARRL Youth and Education Director, Dee Neuman, N6WWT and Mary Duffield, WA6KFA, of the Redwood Youth Foundation in Redwood City helping to get the forum off to a rousing start.

"A lot of people have the idea that hams are a bunch of old fuddy - duddies," said Dick Schulze, AA6DL. "But that's not the case today. The future of ham radio is solidly in the hands of today's youth. We owe it to them and to Amateur Radio to assure that their manifold ideas are listened too and explored." He said some of the topics for the Youth Forum include: "How Young Hams Stay Abreast of Developments in Radio" and "How to Interest

Your Friends in Ham Radio."

HAWAII CALLS

"This ought to be a good show," Scott said, adding, "the Hawaiian Islands are part of the Pacific Division of the ARRL and believe me, we will put our scenery up against the mainland any day of the week."

Scott promised to have at least one participant involved in the teleconference wearing a hula skirt.

No convention of Amateur Radio operators would be complete without a transmitter hunt. Lauren Stiles, WA6CIE, said the transmitter hunt during PACIFICON '92 will be unique in several aspects, including the fact that it may be a hunt conducted from tabletop at the convention hotel. "Even my committee isn't 'fessing up to all the ramifications of their plans," Stiles said.

WOUFF-HONG SOCIETY TO MEET

Following the Saturday evening banquet, a select committee headed by Dwayne Eskridge, W6LKE, a life member of the ARRL and MDARC member, has been authorized to initiate candidates into the infamous Wouff-Hong Society.

Years ago, a writer known only by the initials "T.O.M.", or "The Old Man" was given an ARRL mission to improve the lot of amateur radio. "T.O.M." (some believe he was Hiram P. Maxey a personal friend of W6LKE) was a very clever person, and devised a sure fire way to make ordinary hams into "good operators. The device has been cloaked in deep secrecy for more than 70 years," says Eskridge, a retired FBI Special Agent. "However, on very special occasions such as PACIFICON '92 the high mucky-mucks of the ARRL permit the secret of the Wouff-Hong to be made known to operators of special merit at a closed Saturday midnight session of the Wouff-Hong Society," Eskridge said. (By pre-registering for the convention; being a banquet attender and staying in the convention hotel, you could be selected to participate in this very rare event.)

No ham convention would be complete without a swap meet. "Certainly PACIFICON '92 is no exception," said a swap meet committeeman who refused to be identified. "We have secured a major portion of the Willows Shopping Center parking lot -- directly across the street from convention headquarters -- the Hilton Hotel -- to hold the swap meet."

The swap meet -- now known as a Technical Exchange -- will run from 7 a.m. until 1 p.m.

See Pacificon Page 3

Pacificon From Page 2

Admission for sellers will be \$10 for a booth two parking spaces in width. The area set aside has about 300 parking spaces or room for 150 booths. Only one vehicle per seller will be allowed in the sales area.

Buyers may park at the adjacent Chevron complex, just north of the Willows on Diamond Blvd. (Talk in on 147.06 beginning at 0600 Saturday.) If additional fees or permits are required, it is the responsibility of the exchanger of technical goods or services, according to the committee.

SUPER RATES AT HILTON

"The Hilton Hotel," said Tim Barrett, WD9BIV, director of convention services, "has made just a super deal on rooms available.

For \$65 per night, double occupancy, you

can live like a king or queen -- and I'm not referring to bed size," he said. "To sweeten rooms directly with the hotel in a block of no extra charge."

Barrett said the number to call for hotel reservations is 1-800-826-2644. He said to be sure to mention PACIFICON '92. "Better yet, write to PACIFICON '92, P. O. Box 272613, Concord CA 94527 and request a brochure which describes just about all the events at PACIFICON '92. "Be sure to enclose a self addressed - stamped legal size envelope," Barrett urged.

September 15 is the cutoff date for pre-registration for all events, including the banquet and non-ham events.

If you still have questions about PACIFICON '92 call (510) 932-6125 for information. □

See you there!

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By PAUL W. GIRARD, KC6TZX

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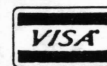
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MINUTES of GENERAL MEETING
Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio
Club
Aug. 21, 1992

Meeting called to order 8:00 PM. Board Members present: Pres. Pete Tormey, V.P. Richard Shappee, Secty. Walt Ebbett, Treas. Stan Christian. Directors: Dick Brown and Larry Gansz.

Minutes were approved as published in the Carrier. Visitors and new members were introduced.

V.P. Richard announced the programs for rest of year. The Auction is in Sept., Oct. will be promo for Pacifi-Con '92, November speaker will be N6HJK who will talk about Medicine in Russia and there will be a group of Doctors from Russia.

Treas. Stan reported \$4,232 in the treasury. The insurance refund check was received. And when joining or re-newing ARRL membership do so through our Club.

Membership Chmn. Geo. Jones reported membership at 472. (Three more joined during the meeting. Now 475.)

Public Svc. Chmn. Wayne, said we need help Sept. 6 for the Hekathon and on the 19th for LasTrampas Trail Ride.

Auction Chmn. and RRRG Chmn. Paul again announced the RRRG dress code when operating. Also there will be a form in Sept. Carrier to be used when selling items at the Auction.

Ed. Chmn. Jess reported the Mt. Diablo Unif. School District thru the Ed. Program will conduct the radio classes and cost will be \$5. Classes start Sept. 15 for 8 weeks at old Pleasant Hill Hi School

next to county library.

Motion made, seconded and passed that \$600 minimum be made available for more MDARC Tee shirts.

Dwayne Eskridge, W6LKE announced there will be an initiation during PacifiCon into the Royal Order of Wouff Hong, which was formed in 1923. There is no cost, must be a licensed ARRL member. Initiation is held only at midnight at an ARRL Convention.

Pgm. Speaker was Curtis Wheeler, KD6ELA. He is a Telecom Specialist at Chevron, and was 4½ months in Saudi Arabia with the Natl. Guard. He talked about the Chevron Retail Automation Network System. There are over 4,000 stations. It takes only 3 to 4 seconds to process your credit card purchase. The network is helpful in quick reporting of stolen cards. Also stations can order supplies by touch tone fone. The system is digital but will handle voice and slow scan TV. It uses the KU band which he explained vs the C & X bands. Power is measured by signal to noise ratio, not by S Signal.

Since the dishes are affected by weather, they have de-icers.

The satellite covers the CON-US. Alaska and Hawaii are on a different bird, Curtis said. There is no user date to Canada. The network is a leased network.

A slide presentation was also made showing equipment at Chevron Stations, Concord and Chevron Park.

Respectfully submitted

Walter Ebbett, Jr., Secty.

MINUTES of BOARD MEETING
Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio
Club
September 3, 1992

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. Board Members present: Pres. Pete Tormey, V.P. Richard Shappee, Treas. Stan Christian, Secty. Walt Ebbett, Directors Dick Brown and Larry Gansz. Committee Members Geo. Jones and Lauren Styles.

Minutes of last meeting were approved as published.

Discussion was held on filling nominating committee and candidates for office.

Programs for General Meeting were announced as follows: Oct.- PacifiCon Video Tape promotion with Miss PacifiCon '92, How to make PacifiCon Stew,

Canal Boat Riders. Nov.- Len Traub and Medical Mission with Russian Doctors. Dec.- Christmas Party. Jan. 1993- Manpowered Submarine.

Treasurer reported bank ballance of \$4,048.35.

Membership chairman reported 474 members.

Discussion was held on PacifiCon progress. Ticket sales are doing well. All exhibitor space has been sold and. Program and logistics shaping up. Discussion was held on hall way exhibitors and tables.

Time and location of next Board Meeting not decided.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Walter W. Ebbett, Jr.
Secty.

AUCTION RULES

1. Only ham radio related equipment will be accepted for auction. (Decisions on what constitutes ham radio equipment may be decided by the Auction Committee.)
2. NO equipment which was manufactured with a serial number will be accepted for auction if the serial number is missing, obliterated or changed.
3. Items for auction will be auctioned to the highest bidder as determined by the Auctioneer. All decisions on the buyer remain with the Auctioneer or the Auction Committee. No protests are allowed.
4. The seller of items for auction MUST remove any unsold items at the end of the evening. Items left by sellers will be disposed of by the Auction Committee which reserves the right to impose a \$25 disposal fee per item.
5. The Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club will retain ten (10%) percent of the selling price of any item left for auction. The funds retained by MDARC are earmarked for education and maintenance of club owned and operated equipment.
6. The Auction Committee of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club retains, exclusively, the right to accept for auction, and to auction at its discretion, equipment for auction. (i.e. The Committee may REJECT for auction items which have no value, or which may be dangerous to operate, or are illegal to operate.)
7. Sellers may be required to show identification and/or establish rightful ownership of items for auction.
8. Items "bought back" by sellers are done so at the rate of \$1 per item. (A "buyback" occurs when a seller bids against himself to protect a price.)
9. ALL BUYERS MUST have a "paddle" issued by the Auction Committee. The paddle number must be shown to the Auctioneer in order to validate a bid and to conclude a transaction.
- 10 THERE IS NO SMOKING IN THE AUCTION HALL.
- 11 ALL ITEMS FOR AUCTION MUST bear an identification tag issued by the Auction Committee which shows the seller's paddle number. The ID tags MUST be SECURELY attached to items for auction.
- 12 The Auction is for the benefit of all. Please refrain from boisterous conduct during the auction. DO NOT sit, stand or dance upon the tables. They are the property of others and MDARC is fully responsible for their ultimate condition.
- 13 NO EQUIPMENT may be removed from the Auction Hall prior to a release from the Auction Treasurer.

If you know of an estate, or of hams wishing to donate equipment for the benefit of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club, for auction or other use, please contact:

AUCTION COMMITTEE
Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club
Paul W. Girard, KC6TJU, Chairman
(510) 689-2346 (Please leave a message.)

ROCKY RIDGE REPEATER GROUP
MEETS SEPTEMBER 16 AT FIRE
COLLEGE

The regular meeting of the Rocky Ridge Repeater Group will be September 16 at 8 p.m. at the Contra Costa Fire District Training Facility on Treat Blvd., just west of Oak Grove Road (Station 10) in Concord, says Paul Girard, RRRG Chairman. "We hope to have a representative of the Federal Communications Commission present to explain the where's why, and how of prosecution of jammers," Girard said. "This is a timely meeting because the FCC has just announced the capture and prosecution (administratively) of a number of errant operators on both the amateur and CB frequencies. And the minimum fines have just gone up to \$8,000 per offense," Girard noted.

The FCC's representative will be limited to 40 minutes, but may remain to answer questions. No other significant business is scheduled, other than action to approve applications of those seeking admission.

Applicants for initiation into the RRRG must be present in person, must have a copy of their license in their possession, be sponsored, and be a member of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club in good standing. Initiation is \$10 and half year dues are \$12.50, payable prior to initiation.

The RRRG Steering Committee will meet prior to the general membership meeting. A closed session of the Steering Committee will be called to consider an expulsion. Paul Girard, KC6TZU

M D A R C AUCTION

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ITEM DESCRIPTION

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CONDITION: Works? _____ Needs Work? _____

REMARKS (Bands, Power Supply, etc): _____

SILENT BIDS

Amount _____ Buyer # _____

Amount _____ Buyer # _____

Amount _____ Buyer # _____

Amount _____ Buyer # _____

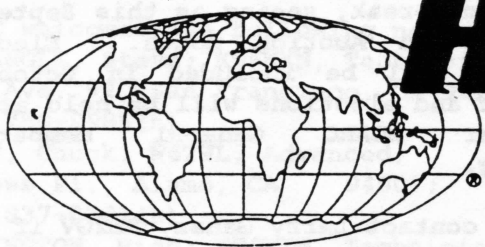
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mem. unit
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240 Mem. w/optional
mem. unit
2 MTR RX

TH-225A
2 MTRS/5W
TH-315A
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ALINCO

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40 Mem Channels
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PLANE CRASH WITNESS

"Before the plane hit, I had my mike in my hand," (to report the accident) said Don Smith, W6NKF, an eyewitness to the fatal crash of a twin engine Piper Apache at Highway 4 and Solano Way on September 3, 1992, at 2:35 in the afternoon. A ham for nearly 40 years, Smith used the 222 MHz club repeater to call for help. "I used that and the cellular phone in the jeep".

Smith was one of two people who tried desperately to rescue the pilot and a student. "It was just too damned hot," said Smith, a pilot himself. "When av (aviation) gas starts burning you can't get near it". He added, "I had an extinguisher in the car, but that wouldn't have done any good. Not in a mess like that."

Smith was heading to "Fat City" (Alpine Bakery) for the usual

afternoon "high tea" with a group of other Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club members. "I guess I was 200 yards away when the plane rolled into a bank as he was coming out of a touch and go landing. He seemed to lose power and wing lift," Smith said. "Then the plane just cart-wheeled down the freeway losing wings, tail and fuselage. There was fire everywhere."

The plane, according to news accounts, clipped the rear end of a station wagon carrying a woman and her two children. By a miracle no one on the ground was injured. The crash closed Highway 4 from 2:45 p.m. until nearly 6:30 p.m. causing a mammoth traffic backup. Fortunately, many hams who travel the route were able to communicate and avoid some of the snarl (Ed. Note -- Under normal circumstances, if a cellular phone is available, ham radio cannot legally be used for placing a telephone call.) Paul W. Girard, KC6TZX

FROM THE PRESIDENT

September is MDARC's 1993 Officer Nomination Month. Now's your opportunity to be a leader of one of the largest, most influential and respected Amateur Radio Clubs in the country! There's a position open that meets the desires and capabilities of everyone. All you need to do is be nominated at the upcoming General Membership meeting on September 18, conduct a whirlwind campaign and be elected. Simple!

You can nominate yourself or your

"favorite" MDARC associate. Nominations will be ratified during the Auction's half-time break, seeing as this September is also an Auction month. Election ballots will be included in October's Carrier and elections will be held at the November MDARC General Membership Meeting.

Please contact Larry Gansz, KB2GV if you would like to nominate anyone or if you have any questions on the nomination and election process. Pete Tormey, N6QGN

What If They Gave A Disaster And Nobody Came?

On the evening of the August MDARC Meeting I left before the start of the scheduled program. Later that evening, the wife of one of our MDARC members called me at home hoping that I could reach her husband at the meeting over the radio. She had some urgent personal traffic. I figured no problem. With a room full of about 75 HAMS surely one would be monitoring the radio.

I contacted HAMS in Modesto, Pleasant Hill and Concord in seconds of my announcement of urgent traffic over the local repeaters, including 2 meters and 440. I tried them all, but nobody at the meeting was listening! Finally, a HAM visiting this area drove over to the meeting and delivered the message in person.

What would happen if a major emergency occurred during an MDARC meeting? Think about were all the emergency coordinators are; in the meeting. Just a suggestion, but shouldn't we designate someone at the meeting to monitor the radio? Derek Brown, N6CUK

(Ed. I strongly agree with Derek. It was my wife that was trying to deliver an urgent message.)

PETITION

=====

To:Dress Code Enforcement Group(DCEG)
Via:Editor,The Carrier
From:WA6ADW,Clan Campbell Member#8088

This is to respectfully request a Knobby Knees Permit from the DCEG so that I may check into the repeater while wearing my kilt.I realize the difficulty the DCEG would have in granting a completely unrestricted Permit and I would be willing to accept one with the appropriate ATV conditions.

I know that His Grace,the Clan Chief, would be pleased if this special dispensation could be given to a Clan member in the furtherance of better American/Scottish relations.

(copy to:The Duke of Argyll,Chief,Clan Campbell;Inveraray Castle,Inveraray, Scotland)

The 10th Annual SCRA INDOOR/OUTDOOR - FLEA MARKET/AUCTION

Sebastopol, CA Saturday, Sept 26

You are cordially invited to the 10th annual SCRA Flea Market. Just an hour's drive north of the Golden Gate Bridge, in the heart of the Sonoma County wine country, ours is the last major flea market of the year — come and see what we have to offer!



Sonoma Co
Radio
Amateurs



FLEA MARKET

INDOOR SELLING AREAS: There is also a large paved parking lot for sellers who prefer to set up outside.

*** FREE ADMISSION! ***

FREE DOOR PRIZES: Be sure to get your free door prize ticket -- You need not be present to win the grand prize.

FOOD: Breakfast and lunch will be available.

SELLERS: Reserve in advance for best spots. Tables are provided for indoor spaces only.

TIMES: Sellers' set-up starts 7 AM.
Doors open at 8.
Auction around Noon.

LOCATION: The Holy Ghost Society hall, 7960 Mill St. Rd, just north of Sebastopol on Hwy 116. Plenty of free parking.

Questions? Call Al N1AL (707) 538-7115.

SELLER REGISTRATION:

Name: _____ Call: _____

Addr: _____

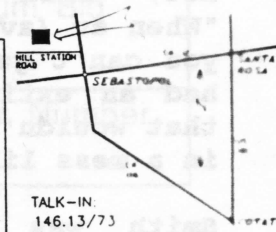
City/St: _____ ZIP: _____

Number of Spaces to Reserve: _____

Indoors ☐ \$ per space: x \$10.00

Outdoors ☐ \$ Enclosed: _____

Send to: Sonoma Co. Radio Amateurs Inc.
PO Box 116
Santa Rosa, CA 95402



TALK-IN
146.13/73

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATE

MDARC welcomes the following new members:

ABATANGLE, Steve; KD6KXN, Technician; 331
11th Ave. #2, San Francisco, CA 94118;
(415) 750-9985 (h)

HAIST, Chuck; W6TWL, Advanced; 26 St.
Andrews Pl., Alamo, CA 94507;
(510) 837-0391 (h)

HARRINGTON, Rich; KC6VXN, Technician
4603 Lakewood St., Pleasanton, CA 94588;
(510) 462-1467 (h), (408) 456-2099 (w)

NOTTINGHAM, Orry S.; KB6KOR, Technician;
6745 Moore Dr., Oakland, CA 94611;
(510) 339-1968 (h), (510) 659-1970 (w)

REYNOLDS, David; KD6KFT, General;
3375 Mildred Ln., Lafayette, CA 94549
(510) 284-7355 (h), (510) 827-3553 (w)

REYNOLDS, Robert F. (Bob); N6OGP, General;
106 Emerson Ct., Pleasant Hill CA 94523
(510) 935-7249 (h)

SYMS, Robert C. (Rob); KD6KGZ, Technician;
301 Salem Ct., San Ramon, CA 94583;
(510) 539-8761 (w)

TABLAN, Edgardo C. (Ed); KD6KIC, Technician
171 Tammy Cir., Pittsburg, CA 94565;
(510) 709-1056 (h), (510) 351-3500 (w)

TAUBE, Allen; KD6KHB, Technician; 4041
Siino Ave., Concord, CA 94520;
(510) 676-3886 (h)

THOMPSON, Dave M.; KA6NCC, General; 2740
Cherry Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94596;
(510) 933-4881 (h)

The following member renewed too late to be
included in the Directory:

LYLES, Don; KC6ZKD, Technician; 979 Almond
Dr., Oakley, CA 94561; (510) 625-0917 (h)

Congratulations to the following on their
upgrade and/or new call:

Pavan Gill: Technician, KD6MFL
Jacque Pillon: Has passed the Technician
and General exams and is awaiting his
license and call
Clayton Stiles: Advanced

Peter Smith's call was incorrectly listed
last month. It is KD6LNV.

Please note the following address changes:
Timothy Grimes: 6313 Kenilworth Dr., Austin,
TX 78723

Robert Ziemba: P.O. Box 2190, Henderson, NV
89009-
7009

SILENT KEY

We are saddened to report that club member
Robert Stormer, W6TNU, died at the San
Francisco Veterans Hospital on August 4,
1992. He was 52 years old. He received a
full Military burial in the Golden Gate
National Cemetery.

CLUB MEETING VISITORS

MDARC was delighted to have the following
guests attend the general club meeting on
August 21st:

Mike Morrow, AB6NN, 259 Toledo Ct.,
Vallejo, CA 94591.

Marten L. Poles, Sr., KC6QVE, 1631 Santa
Clara St., Vallejo, CA 94590.

Both of these Hams are members of the
Vallejo, NBARA.

by George Jones, KI6YK

September Club Auction

Don't forget that the second Auction of this year will be at the September general
membership meeting this year. The date of the Auction was moved to avoid conflict with
Pacificon 92. The location remains the same; Our Lutheran Savior Church, 1350 Carol Lane,
Lafayette. Doors open to sellers at 5:30 PM and to buyers at 6:30 PM. The first gavel
strikes at 7:00 PM and the last at 11:00 PM.

Equipment from at least one estate will be available, as well as the "tons" of great gear
our members will drag in. Please see the sample "Equipment Tag" elsewhere in this issue.
One of these tags needs to accompany each piece of equipment. Also printed in this issue
is a copy of the Auction rules. Remember, you may only bring HAM related equipment to the
Auction. The Auction Committee has the final say on what is and isn't HAM related. The
Club retains 10% of all proceeds, a \$1 buyback fee and twenty-five dollar disposal fee for
equipment abandoned at the Auction (you pack it in, you pack out). For you new MDARC
members, this is not an event to be missed! Ed.

FROM THE EDITOR

It's now easier than ever to submit Carrier Articles! Your Editor made the big plunge and bought a TNC and is registered on KI6WE (144.970 MHz). For those of you with Packet capabilities, you can send your articles or information to my mail box, KC6SLE. I am excited about the potential of Packet. I have already received several articles and it was easy to download into my files and convert to my word processing software. Technology can be a wonderful tool.

Every MDARC member is encouraged to submit articles, suggestions or constructive criticisms for the Carrier. If you don't have Packet, then submit your ideas by mailing me either copy ready print or preferably, a computer disk so I can import you file into my software. I will return the disk! So get to work on the October issue.

Getting on to Packet was a fun, but challenging experience. If you haven't got on Yet, it goes something like this: First came the expense. With that out of the way "several" nights of study equipment and software manuals are in order. When tired of that you say the heck with it, I'll just hook it up and see what it does.

Next comes an evening of cable construction to match your rig. With that out of the way you settle down to hooking up the station, only to find that your radio is on one side of the room and your computer's on the other. Cables are too short. OK, I was planning to rearrange my station anyway. Now its been four days since I made this capital investment: let's see some results.

Realize that at this point its usually very late on a work night

and you'd be better off waiting until the next day...not! So you turn everything on and grab the manual. It lists all kinds of self tests that involve the TNC connecting and talking to itself. Lets skip that and get right to Packet. Early in the morning you admit that you haven't got a clue why all you can get is "NOT WHILE DISCONNECTED" in bright red (is it the screen or my eyeballs) across the screen. Time for bed.

The next day at work it suddenly comes to me why the system is not working (it never fails, I always do my best thinking about non-work related things at work). I hurry home that evening, ignore dinner and the family, and isolate myself in front of the computer. Sure enough it was the wrong COMM port...now my computer, radio and TNC are all talking to one another...but why won't they talk to me or at least let me in on the conversation.

At one point during this experience my wife came in and asked what that new box with all the lights does (she hasn't seen the bill yet). When I told her it allowed my (our) computer to talk to other computers she went away mumbling something about not knowing our computer needed companionship.

Was it all worth it? Yes, its a fun and powerful form of communications. Its a great way to actively interact with other HAMS and gather information. For all I've said you'll be up and running in about a week and before you know it you'll be helping others through the same process.

I'd like to thank Jay, KT6Y, and Kent, KD6JAC, for their assistance and patience with me. It gets a strong thumbs up. Greydon Hicks, KC6SLE

The Mount Diablo Amateur
Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
Meeting:
Third Friday Each Month
8:00 PM / 2000 hours
Our Savior Lutheran Church
1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette, CA

Club Officers

President:

Pete Tormey, N6QGN
(510) 680-0920

Vice President:

Richard Shappee, WA5HQJ
(510) 682-1644

Secretary:

Walter Ebbett, KB6QIB
(510) 837-2204

Treasurer:

Stan Christian, WU6P
(510) 672-0330

Emergency Coordinator:

Skip Slates, KC6JEM
(510) 944-9749

Directors:

Dick Brown, KT6X
(510) 676-9048

Larry Gansz, KB2GV
(510) 356-2411

Contra Costa County
ARES/RACES Nets

Thursdays, 1900 Hours
Central County - 145.680/s

James House, KA6IVF
(510) 372-0345

East County - 146.535/s

Bill Hall, KB9M
(510) 778-0977

South County - 146.355/(100 pl)

George Jones, KI6YK
(510) 837-9316

West County - 145.110/-

Robert Hughes, N6SPY
(510) 527-7048

QSY to 147.735/- at 1920 Hours
Meeting of all County
ARES\RACES Nets

The Rocky Ridge Repeater
Group

P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
Next Meeting:
Third Wednesday Of Odd Months
8:00 PM / 2000 hours
Contra Costa Fire College
2945 Treat Bld., Concord, CA

Club Officers

Chairman:

Paul Girard, KC6TZU
(510) 689-2346

Technical Chairman:

Mike Burke, KB6RMT
(510) 682-7296

RRRG Repeaters

147.060/(100 pl)
224.780/-(077 pl)
441.325/(100 pl)

RRRG Nets

Phone Net - Thursdays

1930 Hours, 147.060/(100 pl)
Net Control: Jay Caldis, KT6Y

ATV Net - Thursdays

2000 Hours, Net Control:

Mike Burke, KB6RMT,

Alt.: Don Smith, W6NKF,

2nd Alt.: John Cunningham, KC6KIQ

Contra Costa County
Emergency Services HF Net

First Thursday following
first Wednesday,

2000 Hours, 3.895 MHz

Net Control:

Hank Berriman, W6ZHY, AEC

Carrier

Editor: Greydon H. Hicks, KC6SLE
(510) 798-1251

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Mailing: Walt Ebbett, KB6QIB

Labels: George Jones, KI6YK

Sheriffs' Uniform Reserve

Clay Yale, N6YBQ
(510) 228-8223

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Livermore Swapmeet	Las Positas College Livermore	September 6, 1992
MDARC Amateur Radio Classes Start	Pleasant Hill Education Center, Pleasant Hill	September 14, 1992
RRRG General Membership Meeting	Contra Costa Fire College, 2945 Treat Blvd., Concord	September 16, 1992
MDARC General Membership Meeting	Our Savior Lutheran Church 1035 Carol Ln., Lafayette	September 18, 1992
Deadline for October Carrier Articles	NA	October 1, 1992
Sierra Hamfest and Campfaire	Monden, NV	October 10, 1992
Pacificon 1992	Concord Hilton Concord CA	October 16 - 18, 1992

The Carrier
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Pleasant Hill, CA 94523



FIRST CLASS MAIL

